

ENGINEERING HERITAGE PANEL.

Tuesday 5th November 2002.

Ms Bonita HONIG,
Secretary,
Engineering Heritage Australia,
The Institution of Engineers, Australia,
Engineering House,
11 National Circuit,
ACT. 2600.



**The
Institution
of Engineers,
Australia**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
DIVISION

TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY PLAQUING REPORT.

Dear Bonita,

Here is the long overdue Report on the National Engineering Landmark Plaquing Ceremony for the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Mining which event took place at the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Mining Museum Railway Station, Western Australia, on the afternoon of Tuesday 27th November 2001.

The following are enclosed:-

1. 5 copies of the Invitation and Acceptance List.
2. 5 copies of the Invitation format.
3. 5 copies of the Programme for the Ceremony.
4. 5 copies of the detailed programme and speech notes used by Chairman of the Engineering Heritage Panel, Mr Bruce James.
5. Three photographs taken at the unveiling of the two Plaques which were not mounted in the inner wall of the Ticket Office until some days after the Ceremony.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce W S James OAM HonFIEAust. FIEE.
Immediate Past Chairman,
Engineering Heritage Panel.

IEH21030.

TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY PLAQUING REPORT.

At 10.00am on Tuesday 27th November 2001, some twentyfour people assembled on the platform of the Kalgoorlie Railway Station, Western Australia, when the National Engineering Landmark Plaques were unveiled by His Worship the Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Mr Paul Robson, and accepted by Mr John Powell, the Manager Country Passenger of the Western Australian Government Railways Commission on behalf of the Commissioner of Railways.

Addresses were given by Mr Bruce James, the Chairmen of the WA Division Engineering Heritage Panel; Mr Paul Robson, the Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder; Mr Richard Usher, the Director of the Western Australia Division of the Institution of Engineers, Australia; and Mr John Powell, and the Manager Country Passenger of the Western Australian Government Railways Commission.

The attached photographs and copies of Ceremony Notes, Invitation Lists etc. cover the event.

Bruce W S James OAM HonFIEAust FIEE,
Immediate Past Chairman,
Engineering Heritage Panel.

5th November 2002.

IEH21030.

TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY PLAQUING CEREMONY NOTES.

1. WELCOME: WHO AM I?
2. NAME SPECIAL GUESTS:
Mr Paul Robson, Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.
Mr Paul Spencer, Australian Rail Track Corporation.
Mr John Powell, WA Government Railways Commission,
Mr Richard Usher, Director
3. SPECIAL APOLOGIES:
Professor Peter Lee, President, WA Division of the I.E.A.
Mr Matt Birney MLA.
The Hon. Clive Brown MLA.
Mrs Marli Wallace, Chairperson, Heritage Council of W.A.
Mr Ian Baxter, Director, Heritage Council of W.A.
The Hon. Reg Withers, President, Royal WA Historical Society.
4. HISTORY OF PLAQUING PROGRAMME:
5. CRITERIA OF PLAQUING PROGRAMME:
6. EXAMPLES OF PLAQUING PROGRAMME:
7. FOCUS ON CENTENARY OF FEDERATION:
1. Another Plaque at Port Augusta.
8. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PARTICULAR PROJECT:
9. INVITATION FOR Mr Paul Robson, Mayor, TO UNVEIL THE PLAQUE:
10. INVITATION FOR Mr Richard Usher TO THANK Mr Paul Robson, the Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder FOR UNVEILING THE PLAQUE:
11. Mr Richard Usher TO THANK SPONSORS.
The Australian Rail And Track Corporation.
12. REQUEST Mr Richard Usher TO HAND OVER THE OWNERSHIP OF THE PLAQUES TO Mr John Powell, the Manager Country Passenger of the W A Government Railways Commission.
13. ACCEPTANCE OF PLAQUE BY : Mr John Powell, the Manager Country Passenger of the W A Government Railways Commission.
14. CALL SPECIAL PEOPLE TO ACCEPT MINIATURE PLAQUES;
Mr Paul Robson, the Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Mr Paul Spencer, Australian Rail Track Corporation.
Mr John Powell, WA Government Railways Commission,
15. THANK VARIOUS PEOPLE FOR THEIR HELP:
Mr Nigel Ridgway, Chairman SA Engineering Heritage Committee.
Dr Richard Hartley for the preparation of the documentation,
Ms Amy Comen, Chairman of the Goldfields Group of the Inst.
Mr John Powell, Manager Country Passenger, WAGRC, Perth
Mr Peter McDonald, Terminal Manager Kalgoorlie, WAGRC.
16. INVITE GUESTS TO JOIN IN MORNING COFFEE.
17. CLOSE:

NEWS RELEASE FOR PLAQUING CEREMONIES.

GENERAL.

Some sixteen years ago, the Institution of Engineers, Australia, initiated an Australian Engineering Plaquing Programme as a means of bringing public recognition to significant historic engineering works and to the engineers who created them. Such significant engineering works are those which have been judged to be valuable to a group of people through a retrospective survey. These works are marked with a bronze plaque by the agreement of the interested parties, particularly the owner.

For historic works or objects of particularly outstanding engineering importance, the Institution reserves its ultimate accolade, the National Engineering Landmark award. The item must have contributed significantly to the development of Australia and to the practice of engineering, and thus must represent a milestone by which progress is measured, or a benchmark by which comparisons are made. these works will be seen not only as part of Australia's engineering heritage, but also as significant components of the national Estate. they do more than mark an historic point or period of time.

For historic items which are of lesser significance at the national level, or are significant only within a particular State, region or community, the Historic Engineering Landmark award may be more appropriate. Such works may mark a significant point or period in history

To date, in Western Australia, the Coolgardie Goldfields Water Supply Scheme, the Fremantle Harbour and the Narrows Bridge have been recognised as National Engineering Landmarks, and the Albany Forts, the Perth Wireless Station (Applecross), Canning Dam, and the Rottnest Light Station have been recognised as Historic Engineering Markers.

A. TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY.

This project has been recognised for a National Engineering Landmark award. It involved the building of 1682km of a standard four foot eight and a half inch gauge single track railway line between Port Augusta and Kalgoorlie. Construction starting in 1912 and finished in 1917. Although it was not a promise by Governments at the time of Australia's Federation in 1901, it has played a vital part in cementing the Federation through the final linking of the States of the Commonwealth by a rail transport system.

BUILT IN 1912-1917, THE 1690 KILOMETRE RAILWAY PROVIDED A LAND TRANSPORT LINK BETWEEN WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND THE OTHER STATES, AND CONSOLIDATED THE IDEALS OF FEDERATION.

THE RAILWAY LINE WAS PLANNED AND PROJECT MANAGED BY HENRY DEANE FOR THE FIRST YEAR AND THEN PROJECT MANAGED BY NORRIS GARRETT BELL.

THE LINE WAS CONSTRUCTED USING INNOVATIVE ENGINEERING, INCLUDING THE FIRST USE OF A MECHANISED TRACK LAYER IN AUSTRALIA, AND WAS THE LARGEST CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COMPLETED IN AUSTRALIA UP TO THAT TIME.

BETWEEN OOLDEA AND NURINA IS THE LONGEST RAILWAY STRAIGHT IN THE WORLD (478 KILOMETRES).

It was the first ever major Public Works Construction carried out by the Commonwealth of Australia.

Up to that time, it was the largest construction work that had ever been carried out in Australia.

It was initiated and planned by Henry Deane, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Department of Home Affairs who had come from New South Wales. He then supervised its construction for the first twelve months. The final four years construction was then carried out by Norris Garrett Bell who had come from Queensland.

It was the first use in Australia of mechanical track-laying machinery which had been imported from the United States of America.

The magnitude of the organisational requirements was the largest of its kind up to that date, involving some 3,000 persons working from bases some 1700 kilometres apart involving not only the supply of the construction plant and materials but also the housing, schooling, recreation facilities, provisioning, personal transport facilities and medical requirements for a very large workforce over many years.

The survey conditions, particularly in the Western Australian section, were some of the hardest ever experienced up to that time.

It was the first time in Australia that radio communications were used between the railheads.

The first major production of the B.H.P. Steel Mill at Newcastle provided a large proportion of the rail track.

TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY PLAQUING CEREMONY.
KALGOORLIE RAILWAY STATION ON 27 NOVEMBER 2001.



L-R.

Mr Paul Spencer.
Australian Rail
Track Corporation.

Mr Bruce James.
Chairman,
Heritage Panel,
W.A. Division,
IEAust.

Mr Paul Robson.
Mayor,
Kalgoorlie-Boulder City.

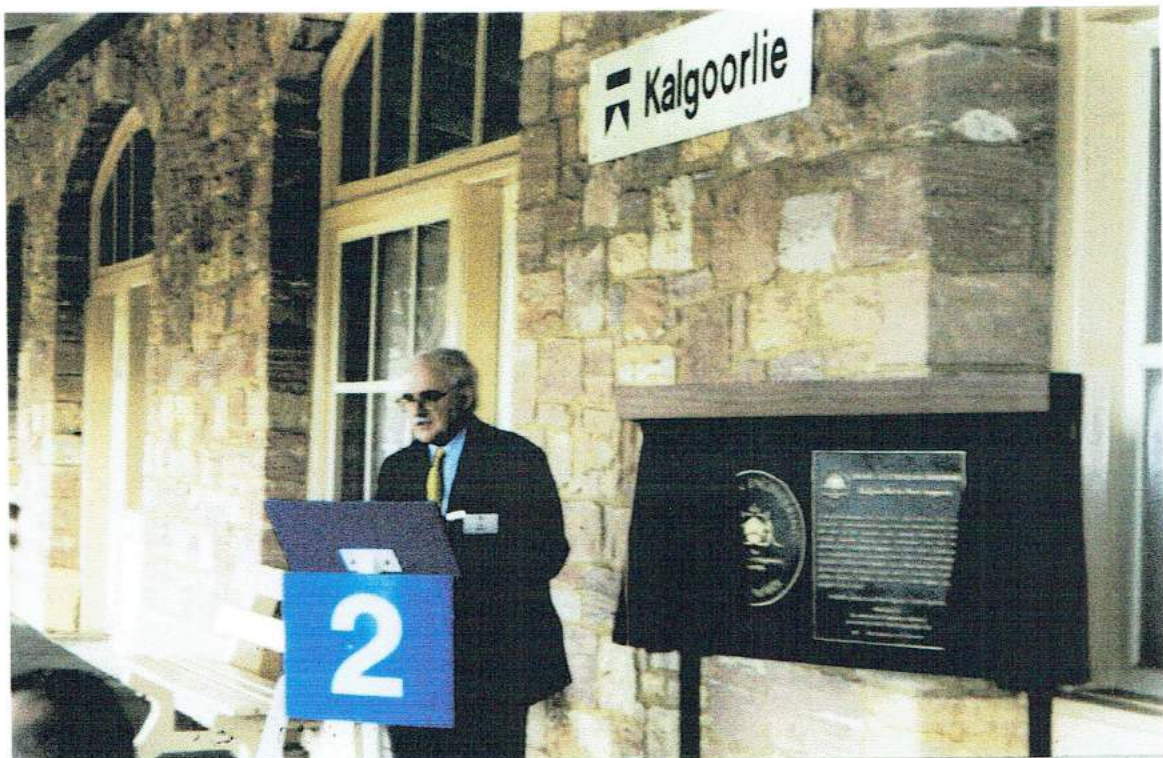
TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY PLAQUING CEREMONY.

KALGOORLIE RAILWAY STATION ON 27 NOVEMBER 2001.



L-R. Mr Bruce James.
Chairman,
Engineering Heritage Panel,
Western Australia Division,
Institution of Engineers, Aust.

Mr Paul Robson.
Mayor of Kalgoorlie-Boulder City.



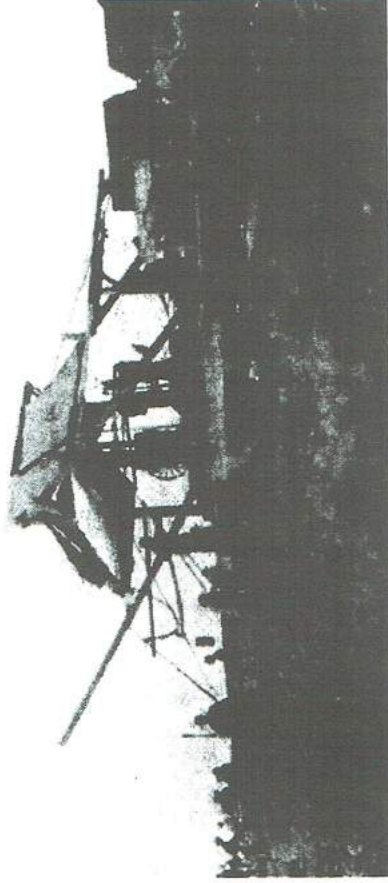
Mr John Powell.
Manager Country Passenger,
Western Australian Government Railways Commission.



The
Institution of Engineers,
Australia

Western Australia Division

Trans - Australian Railway



Invitation

National Engineering Landmark
Commemorative Plaque
Unveiling Ceremony

Kalgoorlie - Western Australia

Tuesday, 27 November 2001
Kalgoorlie Railway Station

The Institution of Engineers, Australia

cordially invites

Prof Peter Lee

to attend the

Trans – Australian Railway

National Engineering Landmark
Commemorative Plaque
Unveiling Ceremony

by

His Worship the Mayor, Mr Paul Robson
City of Kalgoorlie Boulder

at the

Kalgoorlie Railway Station

on

Tuesday, 27 November 2001

at

10.00am

Guests are asked to be seated by 9.55am

(This is a Centenary of Federation Event)

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 21 November 2001 to:

Ms Fiona Thorniley
The Institution of Engineers, Australia
712 Murray Street
West Perth WA 6005

Telephone: 08 93213340
Facsimile: 08 94814332
e-mail: fthorniley@ieaust.org.au

I/We wish to

☐

Accept

☐

Decline

the invitation to the Unveiling Ceremony of the National Engineering Landmark
on Tuesday, 27 November 2001 at 10.00am.

Name(s):.....

Telephone :

(Please print names of attendees for purpose of name badge)

Invite List East-West Railway

category	mailing_name	first_name	surname	company	position	address1	address2	Partner T1	Partner First	Partner Surname	Attending
Politician	Mr I Baxter	Ian	Baxter	Heritage Council of Western	Director	PO Box 6201	East Perth WA 6892				no
LGA	Mr Matt Birney MLA	Matt	Birney		Member for K	PO Box 10406	KALGOORLIE WA 6433				no
Politician	Mr Deborah Botica	Deborah	Botica	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				
Politician	Mr John Bowler MLA	John	Bowler		Member for E	66 Burt Street	BOULDER WA 6432				
Politician	The Hon Clive Brown MLA	Clive	Brown		Minister for M	197 St Georges Tee	Perth WA 6000				no
LGA	Mr Ian Buchhorn	Ian	Buchhorn	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				
LGA	Mr Alf Caputo	Alf	Caputo	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				
Historical Societies	Ms Wendy Carter	Wendy	Carter	Eastern Goldfields Historic	Manager	PO Box 643	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
Business Organisations	Mr Andrew Caulton	Andrew	Caulton	Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Deputy Presid	Unit 3, 58 Egan Street	KALGOORLIE WA 6430		sending Bill Perris as her replacement		
Business Organisations	Mr Tom Cole	Tom	Cole	Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce & Industry	President	Unit 3, 58 Egan Street	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
IEAust Politician	Ms Amy Conan MIEAust CPEng	Amy	Conan	The Institution of Engineer	Chairperson, Senator for W	PO Box 99	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
Media - Print	Senator Peter Cook	Peter	Cook	National Trust of Australia	Chairman	C/- PO Box 1162	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				no
Engineering Consultants	Mr Harry Donald	Harry	Donald	The Golden Mail	Editor	PO Box 1658	West Perth WA 6872				yes
Politician	Mr Michael Drake	Michael	Drake	Worley Limited	Manager, Gol	Suite 2, 35 Brookman Street	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
LGA	Dr J Gregory	Jenny	Gregory	National Trust of Australia	President	C/- PO Box 1162	West Perth WA 6872				
Engineering Consultants	Mr Barry Haase MP	Barry	Haase	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Member for K	PO Box 10415	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				no
State Government Dept.	Mr Russell Haigh	Russell	Haigh	Sinclair Knight Merz Pty L	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				
Engineering Consultants	Mr Greg Hannah	Greg	Hannah	The Institution of Engineer	Engineering H	712 Murray Street	WEST PERTH WA 6005				yes
Engineering Consultants	Dr Richard Hartley MIEAust CPEng	Richard	Hartley	WA Tourism Commission	Manager, Gol	PO Box 10145	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
Engineering Consultants	Mr Tom Hopkins	Tom	Hopkins	GHD Pty Ltd	Manager	PO Box 266	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
Engineering Consultants	Mr Duncan Jack MIEAust CPEng	Duncan	Jack	The Institution of Engineer	Chairperson, E	712 Murray Street	WEST PERTH WA 6005	Mrs	Helen	James	yes
Engineering Consultants	Mr Bruce James Hon FIEAust CPEng	Bruce	James	Loophole Tourist Railway	Manager	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
Railway Enthusiasts	Mr Rob Jenkins	Rob	Jenkins	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
LGA	Mr Doug Krepp	Doug	Krepp	The Institution of Engineer	President, WA	950 Kennedy Street	Maylands WA 6051				no
IEAust	Mr Bill Larke	Bill	Larke	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	161 Even Street	Doubleview WA 6018				yes
IEAust	Prof Peter Lee FIEAust CPEng	Peter	Lee	Royal Western Australian	Chairman of C	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449	Mrs	Evelyn	Lowe	yes
IEAust	Mr Peter Lowe FIEAust CPEng	Peter	Lowe	West Australian Gov. Railways commission	Chairman of C	C/- 49 Broadway	Neelands WA 6009				no
LGA	Ms L McCall	Lennie	McCall	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Deputy Mayor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
Media - Print	Mr Peter McDonald	Peter	McDonald	Kalgoorlie Miner	Editor	127 Hannan Street	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
State Government Dept.	Ms Karen McGay, JP	Karen	McGay	Department of Transport (Regional Service)	Chief Executive	PO Box 2191	BOULDER WA 6432				yes
State Government Dept.	Mr Keyn McKinnon	Keyn	McKinnon	National Trust of Australia (Chief Executive)	C/- PO Box 1162	West Perth WA 6872					yes
State Government Dept.	Mr Dennis O'Reilly	Dennis	O'Reilly	West Australian Gov. Railways commission	Chairperson						yes
State Government Dept.	Mr T Perrigo	Thomas	Perrigo	Goldfields-Experiences Devel	Manager	PO Box 751	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				yes
State Government Dept.	Mr John Powell	John	Powell	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Manager, Engi	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
State Government Dept.	Mr Colin Purcell	Colin	Purcell	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
LGA	Mr Rob Radosevich FIEAust CPEng	Rob	Radosevich	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
LGA	Mr John Rees	John	Rees	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
LGA	Mr Paul Robson	Paul	Robson	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Mayor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
State Government Dept.	Mrs Philippa Rogers	Philippa	Rogers	Australian Railway Historical Society	C/- 136 Railway Parade	West Parade	Bassenden WA 6054				yes
State Government Dept.	Mr Colin Rowcliffe	Colin	Rowcliffe	Australian Rail & Track Corporation	Regional Man	West Parade	EAST PERTH WA 6004				no
LGA	Mr Paul Spencer	Paul	Spencer	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 10343 Gouger St	Adelaide SA 5000				yes
LGA	Mr Graeme Thomson	Graeme	Thomson	The Institution of Engineer	Director, WA	712 Murray Street	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
IEAust	Mr Richard Usher	Richard	Usher	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
LGA	Mr Leigh Vanis Beswick	Leigh	Vanis	Golden West News	News Journal	PO Box 888	KALGOORLIE WA 6430				no
Media - TV	Mrs Kelly Vidarin	Kelly	Vidarin	Heritage Council of Western	Chairperson	2a Ord Street	Fremantle WA 6160				no
Railway Enthusiasts	Mrs M Wallace	Marlie	Wallace	Westral	Commissioner	PO Box 8125	Perth WA 6849				no
Railway Enthusiasts	Mr Reece Walldock	Reece	Walldock	Coolgardie Railway Museum	Manager	Woodwood Street	COOLGARDIE WA 6429				no
LGA	Mr Lance White	Lance	White	Royal Western Australian	President	23 Malcolm Street	West Perth WA 6005				yes
LGA	Mr Nola Wolski	Nola	Wolski	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	Councillor	PO Box 2042	BOULDER WA 6449				yes
LGA	Mr Peter Stonehouse	Peter	Stonehouse	Transfield Maintenance	Track Maint Mgr						yes
	Mr Hugh Gallagher	Hugh	Gallagher	Kalgoorlie Boulder Chamber of Commerce	Unit 3, 58 Egan Street						yes